APPENDIX A.

The following extract from the Manual for Village Panchayats, indicate a number of matters which the Assistant Collector may observe and discuss when visiting a village.

SANITATION.

(1) Are the village and its surroundings overgrown with prickly pear ?

Cochineal insects can remove it.

(2) Has some type of fly-proof latrine, especially for women and children been provided ?

Bore-hole and trench latrines with moveable screens are wanted. Ashes on the top of night-soil or manure keep off flies.

(3) If a Panchayat has built latrines, how is the night-soil disposed of ?

The Nasik system of disposal of night-soil adapted to villages is the best.

(4) Are manure and house refuse thrown on the streets or on vacant spaces and abandoned house sites ?

Manure pits outside the village or on its outskirts, constructed and maintained as advised by the Agricultural Department will improve sanitation and provide valuable manure.

(5) Do householders let their waste water flow on to the roads to form malarial pools or muddy thoroughfares ?

If there is a slope to drain the water off, a pukka gutter kept free of refuse may be useful. If not, cess-pools with removeable buckets or tins or even safe soak pits, if far from wells, may suffice. The buckets may be emptied to water a patch of vegetables or flowers or trees.

(6) Are roads dusty in the dry weather and muddy in the rains ?

Roads made of murram and gutters are necessary.

(7) Are there step wells and consequently guinea worm ? Such wells should be converted into draw wells.

(8) Is there water and mud round wells ?

Stone or concrete pavements round the well with gutters to carry water far off are necessary.

(9) Do people draw water with their own soiled pots and ropes from wells or are rollers with ropes and buckets or tins supplied for all to draw water and fill their vessels ?

(10) Is a river or stream the source of drinking water ?

If so, a Hume pipe or iron cylinder with a fine gauze bottom let into the bed of the stream will act as a filter.

(11) Are separate places on the river, with notice boards, assigned for taking drinking water, washing clothes and watering animals ?

The first should be highest up stream and the second and third next below in order.

(12) Are steps taken to prevent squatting in or near river and nala beds ?

The Patel, if invested with powers under the Village Police Act, can fine persons committing nuisances or the Sanitary Committee or Panchayat can do so.

(13) Have the depressed classes a well or facilities for getting pure water ?

A tube well with a cistern and taps may provide this need.

(14) Are diseases such as small-pox, cholera, diarrhœa, dysentery, malaria, eye-diseases, skin-diseases, common ?

This manual tells you how they can be prevented, and, if they occur, treated.

Prevention is better than cure.

AGRICULTURE.

(1) Do the Agricultural Officers advise the introduction into this village of—

(*a*) improved varieties of seed such as Akola bajri and Banilla cotton ;

(*b*) iron ploughs and mhots or other implements ;

(*c*) new methods of sowing and interculture ;

(*d*) oil-cake and artificial manures ?

Find out what improvements have been successful in similar villages in the taluka and ask advice of the District Agricultural Overseer.

(2) Is Jowari seed rolled in a metal pot or special barrel with flowers of sulphur to prevent smut ?

Smut can be prevented at a trifling cost of a few pice per acre.

(3) Is seed kept for sowing next season, selected ?

If the best heads of the plants are not selected in the field for sowing, seed can be selected by using sieves supplied by the Department.

(4) Can marketing be improved by grading or co-operative societies ?

Horticulture.

(1) (*a*) If fruit is grown, are the best trees obtained ?
(*b*) Can fruit be grown if there is none ?
(*c*) Are the methods of planting, treatment, and grafting correct ?

Ask the Horticulturist at the College of Agriculture, Poona.

(2) Are green vegetables and tomatoes which are essential for health, grown by others than malis ?

Get advice as to seed and method of growing and try to start vegetable plots in school compounds and yards of Houses.

Animal Husbandry.

(1) Are young bulls castrated with Burdisto painless castrator and cows allowed to be covered only by selected stud bulls ?

(2) Are the village grazing grounds overrun at the beginning of the monsoon by useless cattle ?

Try and get the best grazing ground divided up and grazed in rotation.

(3) Is fodder such as karbi, cut with a chaff cutter for economy ?

Weak and ill-fed cattle allowed to roam are useless for ploughing, milk or manure.

(4) Can poultry be improved by getting good cocks of Leghorn or Rhode Island Red breeds ?

Good-sized eggs if graded by weighing and stamped with date of laying fetch good prices.

(5) Do the villagers know the best methods of keeping cattle in sheds, poultry and sheep in pens, so as to prevent disease and get the best value for manure ?

(6) Would milk separators be worth buying for trade in cream and butter ?

Read the chapter on Live Stock and ask the Live Stock Expert at Poona for advice.

The above points deal with the sanitation of the outside of dwellings and improvements in husbandry which will put more money into the pockets of the people, but when a worker gets to know the people of the village better, he will see what their homes and social customs are like.

Homes.

(1) Have the living and sleeping rooms sufficiently big windows to give light and air ?

(2) Is the kitchen dark or lighted enough to see whether pots and pans are clean ?

(3) Are the children bathed daily and sent to school with clean clothes ?

(4) Are cattle, if kept in the yard, tethered in a properly constructed shed as far from the dwelling as possible ?

(5) Is the lying-in room for pregnant women dark and dirty and stocked with dirty rags ?

(6) Is the village dai trained and is she clean and wearing clean clothes and is her home clean or dirty ? Has the dai an outfit and is it in good order ?

(7) Is there an educated woman in the village who could look after (5) and (6) mentioned above.

Education.

(1) (*a*) Do children, boys and girls, aged 6 and above attend school regularly ?

(*b*) Are their bodies and clothes clean ?

(*c*) Have they any eye or other visible disease ?

(*d*) Have they small carpets or mats to sit on ?

(2) Is there a master who can teach games or start a Scout Troop ?

A brief description of suitable games is appended to this Manual. The Divisional or District Scout Commissioner will send you a pamphlet on " How to start a Scout Troop " and other information.

(3) Is there a urinal and a trench latrine in the compound of the school and is it kept properly ?

Children should be taught good habits when young.

(4) Is there a play-ground and school garden and, if so, are they used ?

(5) If there is no school, do the villagers wish to subscribe to a Gaoti School ?

(6) Is there a desire for a night-school and, if so, will any school master teach the pupils ?

(7) Do the villagers want to have a library ?

*A list of suitable books is appended.

Social and Economic Conditions.

(1) Do the villagers spend above their means on marriage and other ceremonies ?

A Better Living Society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act can frame rules to prevent extravagant expenditure, but in some villages rules are framed and enforced by public opinion.

(2) Are the rates of interest on loans, especially those secured by mortgage of landed property, reasonable ?

A Co-operative society, if the members and office-bearers are safe and reliable, can do much to lower rates of interest and to pay off old debts with the help of Land Mortgage Banks.

The Registrar and his Assistants will give advice.

(3) Are the fields of holders scattered so as to cause much waste of time and money in their cultivation ?

The problem of consolidating holdings is a difficult one but some of the more sensible cultivators may be induced to exchange fields so as to make the holdings more compact. The first thing to be done is to get a map of the survey numbers and write the names of the holders on each and see how some numbers might be re-distributed. Jirayat and Bagait will have to be treated separately.

(4) Is there a need of a co-operative purchase or sale society ?

Such societies can save much money by joint purchase of artificial manures or oil-cake manures and by joint disposal of fruit, vegetables, gul, etc.

Village Industries.

(1) What village industries are there in the village and if there are none, can any be started ?

Poultry, separating cream for butter and milk appeal to cultivators ; rope-making to Mangs ; carpentry and mason's work to Mahars ; basket-making to several castes ; weaving to Salis ; and carpet-making and soap-making to all castes.

The Live-Stock Expert and the Director of Industries should be consulted.

(2) Can a market be found for the purchase and sale at fair rates of the products of village industries ?

District Executive Committees with the help of officers of the Co-operative Department should assist. Shops for purchase and sale of hand-woven cloth are being started under the Director of Industries in certain cities.

(Manual for Village Panchayats, etc., Part II, pp. 2 to 6.)